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(CORRESPONDENCE)

BETWEEN THE

Mayor and Federal Authorities

RELATIVE TO THE

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(OCCUPATION) OF NEW ORLEANS, 1862

TOGETHER WITH THE

(3)

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMON COUNCIL.

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NEW ORLEANS:

PRINTED AT THE BULLETIN BOOK AND JOB OFFICE.

1862.





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# CORRESPONDENCE

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RELATIVE TO THE

OCCUPATION OF NEW ORLEANS,

TOGETHER WITH THE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMON COUNCIL.

*French Marshal*  
*Grand Marshal*  
*City of New Orleans*  
*City of Boston*

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Common Council of the City of New Orleans.

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No. 6031.

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*Resolved*, That the Secretary be authorized to have published, five thousand copies, in pamphlet form, of the Messages of the Mayor to the Common Council ; the Correspondence between Commodore Farragut, Major General Butler and the Mayor ; and the proceedings of the Common Council, in reference to the surrender of the City of New Orleans to the Federal forces.

(Signed)

J. MAGIONI,

President Board of Ass't Aldermen.

S. P. DE LABARRE,

President, *pro tem.*, Board of Aldermen.

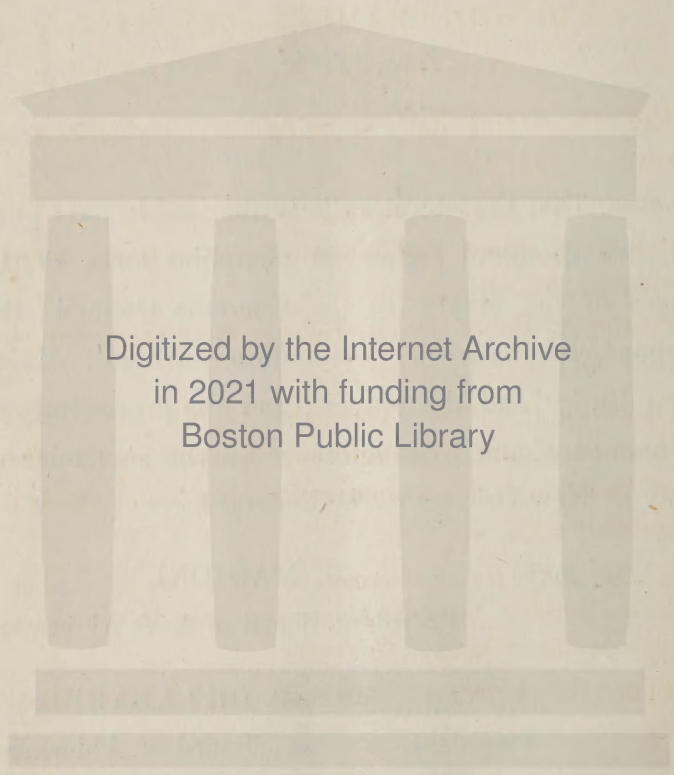
Approved May 7, 1862.

(Signed)

JOHN T. MONROE,

Mayor.

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# BOARD OF ASSISTANT ALDERMEN.

COUNCIL CHAMBER CITY HALL, }  
NEW ORLEANS, April 25, 1862. }

The Board met this day, at half-past 6 o'clock, on a convocation of the Mayor.

On motion, Mr. Beggs was called to the chair.

The roll being called, the following members answered to their names, viz :

Messrs. Beggs, Benit, Davis, Bebee, Hodgkins, Kingsland, Leefe, and Seicshnaydre—8.

The following resolution, presented by Mr. Leefe, was read and adopted, and by unanimous consent sent to the Board of Aldermen for concurrence, the rules having been dispensed with, viz :

*Resolved*, That the Board of Aldermen, be and are hereby requested to meet the Board of Assistant Aldermen in joint session on important business this evening, at 7 o'clock.

The Board of Aldermen were announced, and took their seats.

## JOINT SESSION.

Members present :

*Aldermen*.—Hon. S. P. De Labarre, President, *pro tem* ; Messrs. Cox, Forstall, Huckins, Robin, and Stith—6.

*Assistant Aldermen*.—Hon. James Beggs, President, *pro tem* ; Messrs. Benit, Davis, Beebe, Hodgkins, Kingsland, Leefe and Seicshnaydre—8.

The following message from the Mayor was read :

MAYORALTY OF NEW ORLEANS, }  
 CITY HALL, April 25, 1862. }

To the Honorable Common Council :

GENTLEMEN—At half-past 1 P. M., to-day, I was waited on by Capt. Bailey, second in command of the Federal fleet now lying in front of the city, bearing a demand from Flag Officer Farragut for the unconditional surrender of the City of New Orleans, and the hoisting of the United States flag on the Customhouse, Post Office and Mint.

He also demanded that the Louisiana flag should be hauled down from the City Hall.

I replied, that Gen. Lovell was in command here, and that I was without authority to act in military matters. Gen. Lovell was then sent for, and to him, after stating that his mission was to the Mayor and Council, addressed his demands.

Gen. Lovell refused to surrender the city, or his forces, or any portion of them, but accompanied his refusal with the statement, that he would evacuate the city, withdraw his troops, and then leave the city authorities to act as they might deem proper.

It is proper here to state that, in reply to the demand to haul down the flag from the City Hall, I returned an unqualified refusal.

I am now in momentary expectation of receiving a second peremptory demand for the surrender of the city. I solicit your advice in this emergency. My own opinion is that, as a civil magistrate, possessed of no military power, I am incompetent to perform a military act, such as the surrender of the city to a hostile force ; that it would be proper to say in reply to a demand of that character, that we are without military protection, that the troops have withdrawn from the city, that we are consequently incapable of making any resistance, and that, therefore we can offer no obstruction to the occupation of the place by the enemy ; that the Customhouse, Post Office and Mint, are the property of the Confederate Government and that we have no control over them ; and that all acts involving a transfer of authority must be performed by the invading forces themselves ; that we yield to physical force alone, and that we maintain our allegiance to the Government of the Confederate States.

Beyond this, a due respect for our dignity, our rights, and the flag of our country, does not, I think, permit us to go.

Respectfully,

JOHN T. MONROE, *Mayor.*



On motion, the Board adjourned to meet again in joint session, on to-morrow, Saturday, April 26, 1862, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

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COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, }  
NEW ORLEANS, April 26, 1862. }

The Common Council, in joint session, met this day, at 10 o'clock, A. M., pursuant to adjournment.

ALDERMEN :

The roll being called, the following members answered to their names :

Hon. S. P. De LaBarre, President, *pro tem.*; Messrs. Cox, Forstall, Huckins, Robin Stith and Wiltz—7.

ASSISTANT ALDERMEN :

The roll being called, the following members answered to their names :

Hon. J. Magioni, President ; Messrs. Allen, Beebe, Benit, Beggs, Davis, Dupré, Hodgkins, Kingsland, Leefe, Mensman, Seicshnaydre and Toledano—13.

On motion, the message of the Mayor received and read at the last sitting and published in the proceedings thereof, was read.

Mr. Dupré presented the following preamble and resolution, which was read a second time, and adopted by the following vote :

ALDERMEN :

*Yeas*—Hon. S. P. De LaBarre, President, *pro tem.* ; Messrs. Cox, Forstall, Huckins, Robin, Stith and Wiltz—7.

*Nays*—None.

## ASSISTANT ALDERMEN :

*Yeas*—Hon. J. Magioni, President ; Messrs. Allen, Beebe, Beggs, Benit, Davis, Dupré, Hodgkins, Kingsland, Leefe, Mensman, Seicschnaydre and Toledano—13.

*Nays*—None.

WHEREAS, The Common Council of the City of New Orleans having been advised by the Military Authorities that the city is indefensible, declare that no resistance will be made to the forces of the United States.

*Resolved*, That the sentiments expressed in the message of his Honor the Mayor, to the Common Council, are in perfect accordance with the sentiments entertained by this Council, and by the entire population of this metropolis, and that the Mayor be respectfully requested to act in the spirit manifested by the message.

On motion of Mr. Stith, the joint session was adjourned to this evening, (Saturday,) the 26th inst., at half-past 6 o'clock.

The following is the Mayor's reply to the first demand for a surrender of the city, which was made on the 25th inst :

MAYORALTY OF NEW ORLEANS, }  
CITY HALL, April 26, 1862. }

*To Flag Officer D. G Farragut, U. S. Flag Ship Hartford :*

SIR—In pursuance of the resolution which he thought proper to take, out of regard for the lives of the women and children who still crowd this great metropolis, Gen. Lovell has evacuated it with his troops, and restored back to me the administration of its government and the custody of its honor.

I have, in concert with the city fathers, considered the demand you made of me on yesterday, of an unconditional surrender of the city, coupled with a requisition to hoist up the flag of the United States on the public edifices, and to haul down that which still floats



to the breeze from the dome of this Hall; and it becomes my duty to transmit to you the answer which the universal sentiment of my constituency no less than the promptings of my own heart dictate to me on this sad and solemn occasion.

The city is without means of defence, and utterly destitute of the force and material that might enable it to resist the overpowering armament displayed in sight of it.

I am no military man, and possess no authority beyond that of executing the municipal laws of the city of New Orleans.

It would be presumptuous in me to attempt to lead an army to the field, if I had one at my command, and I know still less how to surrender an undefended place, held as this is, at the mercy of your gunners, and mouth of your mortars.

To surrender such a place were an idle and unmeaning ceremony. The city is yours by the power of brutal force, and not by any choice or consent of its inhabitants. It is for you to determine what shall be the fate that awaits her.

As to the hoisting of any flag than the flag of our own adoption and allegiance, let me say to you, sir, that the man lives not in our midst whose hand and heart would not be palsied at the mere thought of such an act; nor could I find in my entire constituency so wretched and desperate a renegade as would dare to profane with his hand the sacred emblem of our aspirations.

Sir, you have manifested sentiments which would become one engaged in a better cause than that to which you devoted your sword. I doubt not but that they spring from a noble, though deluded nature, and I know how to appreciate the emotions which inspire them.

You will have a gallant people to administer during your occupation of this city—a people sensitive of all that can in the least affect its dignity and self-respect. Pray, sir, do not allow them to be insulted by the interference of such as have rendered themselves odious and contemptible by their dastardly desertion of the mighty struggle in which we are engaged, nor of such as might remind them too painfully, that they are the conquered, and you the conquerors.

Peace and order may be preserved without a resort to measures which could not fail to wound their susceptibilities and fire up their passions.

The obligations which I shall assume in their name shall be religiously complied with.

You may trust their honor, though you ought not to count on their submission to unmerited wrong.

In conclusion, I beg you to understand that the people of New Orleans, while unable at this moment, to prevent you from occupying this city, do not transfer their allegiance from the government of their choice to one which they have deliberately repudiated, and that they yield simply that obedience which the conqueror is enabled to extort from the conquered.

Since writing the above, which is an answer to your verbal communication of yesterday, I have received a written communication, to which I shall reply before 12 o'clock, if possible to prepare an answer in that time.

Respectfully,

JOHN T. MONROE, Mayor.

The following is the letter referred to by the Mayor in the above communication :

UNITED STATES FLAG SHIP HARTFORD,  
Mississippi River, off New Orleans, }  
April 26, 1862. }

*To His Honor the Mayor of the City of New Orleans :*

SIR—Upon my arrival before your city I had the honor to send to your Honor, Captain Bailey, of the United States Navy, the second in command of this expedition, to demand of you the surrender of New Orleans to me, as the representative of the Government of the United States. Capt. Bailey reported to me the result of his interview with yourself and the military authorities.

It must occur to your Honor that it is not within the province of a naval officer to assume the duties of a military commandant.

I came here to reduce New Orleans to obedience to the laws of, and to vindicate the offended majesty of the Government of the United States.

The rights of persons and property shall be secure.



I therefore demand of you, as its representative, the unqualified surrender of the city, and that the emblem of the sovereignty of the United States shall be hoisted over the City Hall, Mint and Customhouse, by meridian this day, and that all flags or other emblems of sovereignty, other than those of the United States, shall be removed from all the public buildings by that hour.

I particularly request that you shall exercise your authority to quell disturbances, restore order, and to call upon all the good people of New Orleans to return at once to their vocations, and I particularly demand that no person shall be molested in person or property for the profession of sentiments of loyalty to their government.

I shall speedily and severely punish any person or persons who shall commit such outrages as were witnessed yesterday—armed men firing upon helpless men, women and children, for giving expression to their pleasure at witnessing the old flag.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. G. FARRAGUT,

Flag Officer Western Gulf Blockading Squadron.

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COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, )  
NEW ORLEANS, April 28, 1862. }

The Common Council in joint session met this day on a convocation of the Mayor.

ALDERMEN :

The roll being called, the following members answered to their names :

Mr. Stith in the Chair ; Messrs. Cox, Forstall, Huckins and Robin—5.

ASSISTANT ALDERMEN :

Hon. J. Magioni, President ; Messrs. Allen, Beebe, Benit, Dupré, Hodkins, Kingsland, Leefe and Toledano—9.

On motion, the Common Council went into secret session, after which the doors were opened, and the following proceedings of the secret session were ordered to be published.

The following message of the Mayor and accompanying documents were read, viz :

MAYORALTY OF NEW ORLEANS, }  
CITY HALL, April 28, 1862. }

*To the Common Council :*

GENTLEMEN—I herewith transmit to you a communication from Flag Officer Farragut, commanding the United States fleet now lying in front of the city. I have informed the officer bearing the communication, that I would lay it before you, and return such answer as the city authorities might deem proper to be made.

In the meantime permit me to suggest that Flag Officer Farragut appears to have misunderstood the position of the City of New Orleans. He has been distinctly informed that, at this moment, the city has no power to impede the exercise of such acts or forcible authority as the commander of the United States naval forces may choose to exercise ; and that, therefore, no resistance will be offered to the occupation of the city by the United States forces.

If it is deemed necessary to remove the flag now floating from this building, or to raise United States flags on others, the power which threaten the destruction of our city is certainly capable of performing those acts. New Orleans is not now a military post : there is no military commander within its limits, it is like an unoccupied fortress of which an assailant may at any moment take possession. But I do not believe that the constituency represented by you, or by me, embrace one loyal citizen who would be willing to incur the odium of tearing down the symbol representing the State authority to which New Orleans owes her municipal existence. I am deeply sensible of the distress which would be brought upon our community by a consummation of the inhuman threat of the United States commander ; but I cannot conceive that those who so recently declared themselves to be animated by a Christian spirit, and by a regard



for the rights of private property, would venture to incur for themselves and the Government they represent, the universal execration of the civilized world, by attempting to achieve, through a wanton destruction of life and property, that which they can accomplish without bloodshed and without a resort to those hostile measures which the law of nations condemns and execrates, when employed upon the defenceless women and children of an unresisting city.

Respectfully,

JOHN T. MONROE, Mayor.

UNITED STATES FLAG SHIP HARTFORD,  
At anchor off the City of New Orleans, }  
April 28, 1862.

*To His Honor the Mayor and City Council  
of the City of New Orleans :*

Your communication of the 26th instant has been received, together with that of the City Council.

I deeply regret to see, both by their contents and the continued display of the flag of Louisiana on the Court-house, a determination on the part of the city authorities not to haul it down ; moreover, when my officers and men were sent on shore to communicate with the authorities, and to hoist the United States flag on the Custom-house, with the strict orders not to use their arms, unless assailed, they have been insulted in the grossest manner, and the flag which had been hoisted by my orders on the Mint was pulled down and dragged through the streets, all of which go to show that the fire of this fleet may be drawn upon the city at any moment, and in such an event the levee would in all probability be cut by the shells, and an amount of distress ensue to the innocent population, which I have heretofore endeavored to assure you that I desired by all means to avoid. The election is therefore with you ; but it becomes my duty to notify you to remove the women and children from the city within forty-eight hours, if I have rightly understood your determination

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

D. G. FARRAGUT,  
Flag Officer, Western Gulf Blockading Squadron.

UNITED STATES FLAG SHIP HARTFORD,  
 At anchor off the City of New Orleans,  
 April 28, 1862. }

*To His Honor the Mayor of the City of New Orleans :*

Sir—Hereafter when I desire to communicate with the authorities, I will hoist a square flag with a diagonal red cross, when, if your Honor will send your secretary or any other person to receive my communication to the shore opposite to the ship bearing that flag, a boat will be sent with an officer to deliver the document.

When the city authorities desire to communicate with me, by the messenger holding his handkerchief by two corners opposite the ship, a boat will be sent for him or his communication.

As my duties may call me away from before the city for a short time, I request that you will send your reply to any other vessel that may be present.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. G. FARRAGUT,  
 Flag Officer, Western Gulf Blockading Squadron.

Mr. DeLabarre appeared and took the chair, as President, *pro tem.*, of the Board of Aldermen.

His Honor the Mayor presented himself and gave the views he entertained regarding the answer he deemed proper to make to the demand of Flag Officer Farragut.

Messrs. Davis and Beggs having been absent on important duties appeared and took their seats, when the message of the Mayor and accompanying documents were again read.

Mr. Leefe presented the following resolution which was read and unanimously adopted, viz :

ALDERMEN:

*Yeas*—Hon. S. P. De Labarre, President, *pro tem.*;  
 Messrs. Cox, Forstall, Huckins, Robin and Stith—6.



## ASSISTANT ALDERMEN:

*Yeas*—Hon. J. Magioni President ; Messrs. Allen, Beebe, Beggs, Benit, Davis, Dupré, Hodgkins, Kingsland, Leefe and Toledano—11.

*Resolved*, That the views communicated by his Honor the Mayor, orally, to the Common Council, respecting the answer which it behoves the City of New Orleans to return to the ultimatum of Flag Ship Officer Farragut meets the unreserved approbation of this Council, and embody their own views and sentiments ; and the Mayor is therefore respectfully requested to act accordingly.

On motion of Mr. Stith, the Common Council adjourned until to-morrow (Tuesday), at 10 o'clock, A. M.

The following is the Mayor's reply to Flag Officer Farragut's communication of the 28th instant :

CITY HALL, }  
NEW ORLEANS, April 29, 1862. }

*To Flag Officer D. G. Farragut, U. S. Flag Ship Hartford :*

SIR—Your communication is the first intimation I ever had, that it was by "your strict orders" that the United States flag was attempted to be hoisted upon certain of our public edifices, by officers sent on shore to communicate with the authorities. The officers who approached me, in your name, disclosed no such order, and intimated no such design, on your part ; nor could I have for a moment entertained the remotest suspicion that they could have been invested with such powers to enter on such an errand, while the negotiation for a surrender, between you and the city authorities, were still pending. The interference of any one, under your command, as long as these negotiations were not brought to close, could not be viewed by me otherwise, than as a flagrant violation of those courtesies, if not the absolute rights, which prevail between belligerents under such circumstances. My views and my sentiments, with reference to such conduct, remain unchanged.

You now renew the demand, made in your former communication,

and you insist on their being complied with, unconditionally, under a threat of bombardment, within forty-eight hours ; and you notify me to remove the women and children from the city, that they may be protected from your shells.

Sir, you cannot but know, that there is no possible exit from this city for a population which still exceeds, in number, one hundred and forty thousand, and you must, therefore, be aware of the utter inanity of such a notification. Our women and children cannot escape from your shells, if it be your pleasure to murder them on a mere question of etiquette. But, if they could, there are but few among them who would consent to desert their families and their homes, and the graves of their relatives in so awful a moment ; they would bravely stand the sight of your shells, rolling over the bones of those who were once dear to them, and would deem that they died not ingloriously by the side of the tombs erected by their piety to the memory of departed relatives.

You are not satisfied with the peaceable possession of an undefended city, opposing no resistance to your guns, because of its bearing its doom with some manliness and dignity ; and you wish to humble and disgrace us by the performance of an act against which our nature rebels. This satisfaction you cannot expect to obtain at our hands.

We will stand your bombardment, unarmed and undefended as we are. The civilized world will consign to indelible infamy the heart that will conceive the deed and the hand that will dare to consummate it.

Respectfully,

JOHN T. MONROE, Mayor.

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[*Extract from the Journal of April 29. 1862.*]

The Board met this day, pursuant to adjournment.

Hon. J. Magioni, President, in the Chair.

The roll being called, the following members answered to their names, viz :

Hon. J. Magioni, President ; Messrs. Allen, Beggs, Benit, Davis, Kingsland, Leefe and Mensman—8.

The following message of the Mayor and accompanying documents were read, viz :

MAYORALTY OF NEW ORLEANS, }  
CITY HALL, April 29, 1862. }

*To the Common Council :*

Gentlemen—The accompanying communication from Flag Officer Farragut was received this morning. I do not see that it requires any answer in addition to the one already sent in response to the demand of yesterday, or that its statements at all affect the position assumed by the city. Since the city is defenceless against any act of authority the United States commander may desire to perform, any resistance would, of course, be unavailing. I would, therefore, suggest the propriety of asking immediate measures to suppress violence and disorder during the act of raising the United States flag by the Federal forces, and thereafter, in order that they may have no pretext for a wanton assault on the lives and property of our people.

Respectfully,

JOHN T. MONROE, Mayor.

UNITED STATES FLAG SHIP HARTFORD, }  
At anchor off the City of New Orleans, }  
April 29, 1862. }

*To his Honor the Mayor of the City of New Orleans :*

SIR—The Forts St. Philip and Jackson having surrendered, and all the military defences of the city being either captured or abandoned, you are required, as the sole representative of any supposed authority in the city, to haul down and suppress every ensign and symbol of government, whether State or Confederate, except that of the United States. I am now about to raise the flag of the United States upon the Custom-house, and you will see that it is respected with all the civil power of the city. I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. G. FARRAGUT,

Flag Officer Western Gulf Blockading Squadron.



[*Extract from the Journal of the 30th April, 1862.*]

The Board met this day, pursuant to adjournment.

Hon. J. Magioni, President, in the Chair.

The roll being called, the following members answered to their names, viz :

Hon. J. Magioni, President; Messrs, Allen, Beggs, Benit, Davis, Hodgkins, Leefe, Mensman and Toledano—9.

On motion of Mr. Benit, the reading of the journal of the proceedings of the last meeting was dispensed with.

The following message from the Mayor was read, and, on motion of Mr. Leefe, that portion of said message relating to the Police, and also for making provision for supplying the necessities of those of our population that are now in a suffering condition, were referred to the Finance Committee :

MAYORALTY OF NEW ORLEANS, }  
CITY HALL, April 30, 1862. }

*To the Common Council :*

GENTLEMEN—Since your last meeting events have occurred which will occupy a conspicuous place in the history of the country and of the age. It is needless for me more than briefly to recapitulate them. They are sufficiently well known from the publicity which has attended them, and the reports of the public press. It is enough for me to state that yesterday morning the answer you had agreed upon to Flag-Officer Farragut's demand of the day before, was transmitted to him through the hands of my secretary, Mr. Baker, who was accompanied by Messrs. Soulé and McClelland. The result of the interview of Mr. Baker with the United States Commander was that the latter abandoned his purpose of bombarding the city, and signified his intention of removing the flag from this building by means of his own force. Accordingly, at 12 o'clock, Capt. Bell accompanied by an escort of United States marines with two cannon, came to the City Hall, and the flag was then taken down by the United States officers. Thus the position assumed by New Orleans has been fully sustained.

I am glad to say that the peace of the city has been preserved during the excitement of the last few days, as far as was in my power to effect that object. The violations of public order have been few in number and slight in character. This is owing to the valuable services rendered by the European Brigades, Paul Juge fils, General commanding, and the zeal and energy of the ordinary police force. It is still, and will for some days be necessary to continue these efforts for the preservation of public tranquility, and I would therefore, request you to authorize or suggest some arrangement by which the services of the European Brigades may be for the present retained. I have been compelled to increase the number of the police, in order to meet the demands made upon me within the last few days ; and such increase I am confident ought to be maintained. I hope you will make some provision for the excess of expenditure over the amount provided for in the budget, thus demanded by the public necessities.

I would likewise suggest that such action as may seem expedient, be taken for the relief of those of our population who are now in a suffering condition for want of the ordinary necessities of life.

Respectfully,

JOHN T. MONROE, Mayor.

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BOARD OF ASSISTANT ALDERMEN, }  
 COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, }  
 New Orleans, May 1, 1862. }

The Board met this day on a convocation of the Mayor, Hon. J. Magioni, President, in the chair.

Members present—Hon. J. Magioni, President ; Messrs. Allen, Beebe, Beggs, Davis, Dupré, Hodgkins, Kingsland, Leefe, Seichsnaydre and Toledano—11.

A message from the Mayor, accompanied by a communication from Flag Officer D. G. Farragut, of the Blockading Squadron, were read.

On motion of Mr. Beggs, the Board of Aldermen was

invited to meet this Board in joint session, which being communicated, the Board of Aldermen entered and took their seats.

ALDERMEN :

Members present—Hon. Gerard Stith, President, *pro tem*; Messrs. Cox, Forstall, Huckins and Robin—5.

ASSISTANT ALDERMEN :

Hon. J. Magioni, President; Messrs. Allen, Beebe, Beggs, Davis, Dupré, Hodgkins, Kingsland, Leefe, Seicshnaydre and Toledano—11.

On motion, the Common Council went into secret session. After which the doors were opened and the proceedings had were ordered to be published, viz :

The message of the Mayor, with the accompanying communication from Flag Officer D. G. Farragut, were read, and action on the same not being considered necessary nor expedient, on motion, Messrs. Dupré, Leefe and Forstall were appointed a committee to return the said message and communication to the Mayor.

The committee proceeded to the fulfillment of said duty, and returned, reporting that they had fulfilled their mission; upon which the doors were opened, the Board of Aldermen retired, and the Board of Assistant Aldermen adjourned to Tuesday, next, at six o'clock, P. M.

COMMUNICATION FROM FLAG OFFICER D. G. FARRAGUT,

U. S. FLAG SHIP HARTFORD,

At Anchor off the City of New Orleans, }  
April 30, 1862.

*To his Honor the Mayor and City Council of New Orleans:*

GENTLEMEN—I informed you in my communication of 28th of April, that your determination, as I understood it, was not to haul



down the flag of Louisiana on the City Hall, and that my officers and men were treated with insult and rudeness when they landed, even with a flag of truce, to communicate with the authorities, etc., and that if such was to be the determined course of the people, the fire of the vessels might at any moment be drawn upon the city.

This you have thought proper to construe into a determination on my part to murder your women and children, and made your letter so offensive, that it will terminate our intercourse ; and so soon as Gen. Butler arrives with his forces, I shall turn over the charge of the city to him, and resume my naval duties.

Very respectfully,

your obedient servant,

[Signed]

D. G. FARRAGUT,

Flag Officer Western Gulf Blockading Squadron.

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COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, }  
NEW ORLEANS, May 3, 1862. }

The Common Council met this day in session, on a convocation of the Mayor.

ALDERMEN :

Hon. G. Stith, President, *pro tem.*, in the chair. Members present—Messrs. Forstall, Huckins, Robin and Wiltz—5.

ASSISTANT ALDERMEN :

Hon. J. Magioni, President, in the chair. Members present—Messrs. Beggs, Benit, Davis, Dupré, Hodgkins, Kingsland, Leefe and Toledano—9.

The following resolutions were read, and, on motion, adopted by the following vote :

*Aldermen.*—Yeas : Hon. G. Stith, Messrs. Forstall, Huckins, Robin and Wiltz—5.

Nays : None.

*Assistant Aldermen.*—Yeas: Hon. J. Magioni, President; Messrs. Beggs, Benit, Davis, Dupré, Hodgkins, Kingsland, Leefe and Forstall—9.

*Resolved,* That the municipal authorities will continue their normal functions, with the understanding that they will not be interfered with, in all matters of mere administration, and in all matters of police proper, unless disturbance should occur, calculated to endanger the relations created by the existing state of things between the city and the invading army.

The necessities of the people require that the circulation created by the city authorities, in the name of the city, remain undisturbed.

The city authorities should have power to organize citizen patrols, in lieu of additional force of policemen, that they may be enabled to maintain and protect the public tranquility.

It is expected that immediate provision will be made to procure those articles of subsistence much needed, and that such measures will be taken as will secure safe means of transporting them from the place where they may be had to the city of New Orleans.

The City Council would remind the Commanding General of the promise he made to Mr. Soulé to remove the guard from the avenue to the City Hall, upon the pledge taken by Mr. Soulé, and ratified by the Council, that the public archives shall remain intact.

*Resolved,* That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted by the Secretaries of the Common Council to the Commanding General of the United States Army in possession of the city, and that the same be offered as an embodiment of the answer of the municipal authorities to the suggestions discussed in conference had between the General and said authorities.

The following resolution, presented by Mr. Leefe, was read a second time and adopted, and on motion, copies of the same were ordered to be sent to Messrs. P. Soulé, Wm. Freret and Moses Greenwood:

*Resolved,* That a special committee, comprised of Messrs. Stith, Dupré, and Wiltz, be and is hereby appointed to act in conjunction with Messrs. Pierre Soulé, Wm. Freret and Moses Greenwood, of

the Committee of Public Safety, to confer with the Federal Commander relative to obtaining supplies of necessaries of life for the people.

On motion, the Common Council adjourned.

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COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, }  
NEW ORLEANS, May 4, 1862. }

The Common Council met this day in joint session, on convocation of the Mayor.

ALDERMEN :

Hon. G. Stith, President, *pro tem.*, in the chair.

Members present—Messrs. Cox, Forstall, Huckins, Robin and Wiltz—6.

ASSISTANT ALDERMEN :

Hon. A. Dupré, President, *pro tem.*, in the chair.

Members present—Messrs. Allen, Beggs, Davis, Hodgkins, Kingsland, Leefe and Mensman—8.

On motion, the Common Council went into secret session, after which, the doors were opened and the proceedings had, ordered to be published.

The following message of the Mayor was read, with the following endorsement of Major-General Butler, of the resolutions adopted by the Common Council, 3d instant, and transmitted by the Secretaries of the Council in accordance with said resolutions, viz :

MAYORALTY OF NEW ORLEANS, }  
CITY HALL, May 4, 1862. }

*To the Common Council in joint session :*

GENTLEMEN—I herewith transmit to you a copy of the resolutions, passed by both Boards of Aldermen, expressive of their intention to



continue the exercise of their official functions in the administration of the City Government, "with the understanding that in all matters of police proper, they shall not be interfered with" by the authorities of the United States. These resolutions are also an embodiment of the answer of the municipal authorities to the suggestions discussed in the conference between said authorities and the commanding officer of the United States army, to whom they have been submitted, and you will perceive General Butler makes an endorsement upon the resolutions to the effect, that "the action contemplated by them, is believed by him to be substantially within the terms and spirit of his proclamation," thus signifying his ratification of the convention entered into between himself and the city authorities, whereby the city of New Orleans is to be governed during its occupation as a military post, by the army of the United States.

Respectfully,

JOHN T. MONROE, *Mayor.*

Resolutions of the Municipal Authorities of New Orleans, May 3, 1862.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF, }  
NEW ORLEANS, MAY 3, 1862. }

The Commanding General believes the action contemplated by these resolutions to be substantially within the terms and spirit of his proclamation. The European Brigade having been relieved from duty, a patrol of citizens, armed with sabres or revolvers, or both, may be added to the police, not to exceed two hundred and fifty (250).

The General has already taken such measures to aid the city authorities in procuring food in the extremity of suffering, as in his judgment, and upon consultation with the committee of the citizens, have been deemed sufficient, and has transmitted copies of the accompanying orders.

By command of

MAJOR GEN, BUTLER.

GEO. C. STRONG, A. A. General.

Hon. S. P. De Labarre appeared and took the chair.

The Hon. J. Magioni appeared and took the chair. On motion of Mr. Wiltz, the message of the Mayor and endorsement of the resolutions of the Common Council by General Butler, were ordered to be published.

On motion of Mr. Stith, the Chairmen of the Finance Committees were appointed to designate rooms in the City Hall for the office of the Provost Marshal.

The following orders of General Butler, were read :

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF, }  
NEW ORLEANS, May 3, 1862. }

*General Orders No. 19.]*

The Commanding General of this Department has been informed that there is now at Mobile a stock of flour, purchased by the city of New Orleans, for the subsistence of its citizens.

The suffering condition of the poor of this city, for want of this flour, appeals to the humanity of those having authority upon either side.

For the purpose of the safe transmission of this flour, the Commanding General orders and directs that a safe conduct be afforded to a steamboat, to be laden with the same, to this place.

This safe conduct shall extend to the entire protection of the boat on landing, reasonable delay for discharge, and return to Mobile.

The boat shall take no passengers, save the owners and keepers of the flour, and will be subject to the strict inspection of the Harbor Master detailed from these headquarters, to whom its masters will report its arrival.

The faith of the city is pledged for the faithful performance of the requirements of this order, on the part of the agent of the city authorities, who will be allowed to pass each way with the boat, giving no intelligence in aid of the Confederates.

By command of

MAJOR GEN. BUTLER.

GEO. C. SRONG, A. A. G., Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF, }  
 NEW ORLEANS, May 3, 1862. }

*General Orders No. 20.]*

The President, Directors and Company of the Opelousas Railroad, are authorized and required to run their cars on the roads, for the purpose of bringing to the city of New Orleans all materials for provisions, marketing, and supplies of food which may be offered, in order to supply the wants of the city.

No passengers, other than those having the care of such supplies as owners and keepers, are to be permitted to come into the city. All other supplies are prohibited transport over the road, either way, except cotton and sugar, which may be safely brought over the road, and will be purchased at their fair market value by the United States, for specie.

The transportation of live stock is specially enjoined. An agent of the City Government will be permitted to pass over the road, either way, stopping at all points, on the faith of a pledge of such Government, that he transmits no intelligence, and affords no aid to the Confederates.

The officer commanding the post having such terminus within his pickets, will cause a thorough inspection of the cars and boats, for the purpose of furthering the order ; and will offer no other hindrance so long as the order is in good faith complied with.

By command of

MAJOR GEN. BUTLER.

GEO. C. STRONG, A. A. G., Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF, }  
 New Orleans May 3, 1862. }

*General Orders No 21.]*

The Commanding General of the Department of the Gulf has been informed that live stock, flour and provisions, purchased for the substance of the inhabitants of the city of New Orleans are now at the junction of the Red and Mississippi rivers.

The suffering condition of the poor of the city for want of these



supplies, appeals to the humanity of those having authority on either side.

For the purpose therefore of the safe transmission of these supplies to the city, the Commanding General orders and directs that a safe conduct be offered for two steamers, to be loaded with provisions, cattle and supplies of food, either alive or slaughtered, each day, if so many choose to come.

The safe conduct shall be their entire protection by the forces of the United States during their coming, reasonable delay for discharge, not exceeding six days, unless in case of accident to their machinery, and in returning to or near the junction of the Red and Mississippi rivers.

And safe conduct is further granted to boats, etc., laden as before stated, with provisions for New Orleans from any point above the junction of such rivers, if at any time during which these supplies are needed the forces of the United States should be at or above such junction.

These boats will take no passengers save the owners and keepers of the freight aforesaid, and will be subject to the strict inspection of the Harbor Master detailed from these headquarters, to whom they will report their arrival.

The faith of the city is pledged for the faithful execution of the requirements of this order, on the part of the agent of the city authorities who will be allowed to pass with the boats either way, he giving no intelligence or aid to the Confederates.

By command of

MAJOR GEN. BUTLER,

GEO. C. STRONG, A. A. G., Chief of Staff.

Mr. Benit appeared and took his seat.

The following resolution, presented by Mr. Wiltz, was read and adopted by the following vote :

ALDERMEN:

*Yeas*—Hon. S. P. De Labarre, President, *pro tem.*; Messrs. Cox, Forstall, Huckins, Robin, Stith and Wiltz— 7.

*Nays*—None.

## ASSISTANT ALDERMEN:

*Yeas*—Hon. J. Magioni, President; Messes. Allen, Begg, Davis, Benit, Dupré, Hodgkins, Kingsland, Leefe and Mensman—10.

*Nays*—None.

*Resolved*, That in accordance with general orders No. 19, issued by Major-General Butler, with regard to the importation from the city of Mobile to the city of New Orleans, of a boat load of flour, for the use of the citizens of New Orleans, Mr. Moses Greenwood be and he is hereby appointed the agent of the city of New Orleans to attend to the shipment of said cargo of flour, and that he is also authorized to take all the necessary steps to carry this resolution into effect.

The following resolution, presented by Mr. Beggs, was read and adopted by the following vote:

## ALDERMEN:

*Yeas*—Hon. S. P. De Labarre, President, *pro tem*; Messrs. Cox, Forstall, Huckins, Robin, Stith and Wiltz—7.

*Nays*—None.

## ASSISTANT ALDERMEN.

*Yeas*—Hon. J. Magioni, President; Messrs. Allen, Begg, Benit, Davis, Dupre, Hodgkins, Kingsland, Leefe and Mensman—10.

*Nays*—None.

*Resolved*, That in accordance with General Order No. 21, issued by Major General Butler, with regard to the provisions, live stock and flour, now at the junction of the Red and Mississippi rivers, A. D. Grieff, Esq., be and he is hereby appointed the agent of the city of New Orleans to attend to the transportation of said provisions, live stock and flour, and that he is also authorized to take all the necessary steps to carry this resolution into effect.

Mr. Seicshnaydre appeared and took his seat.

The following resolution, presented by Mr. Robin, was read and adopted by the following vote :

## ALDERMEN:

*Yeas*—Hon. S. P. De Labarre, President, *pro tem.*; Messrs Forstall, Cox, Huckins, Robin, Stith and Wiltz—7.

## ASSISTANT ALDERMEN :

*Yeas*—Hon. J. Magioni, President; Messrs. Allen, Beggs, Benit, Davis, Dupré, Hodgkins, Kingsland, Leefe, Mensman and Seicshnaydre—11.

*Resolved*, That in accordance with General Order No. 20, issued by Major Gen. Butler, with regard to the provision, of all sorts, to be imported to the city by the Opelousas Railroad, Mr. P. S. Wiltz be and is hereby appointed the agent of the city of New Orleans to attend to the transportation of said provisions and live stock, and that he is also authorized to take all the necessary steps to carry this resolution into effect.

On motion, the Common Council adjourned.

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OFFICE SECRETARY BOARD OF ASSISTANT ALDERMEN, }  
*City Hall*, New Orleans, May 10, 1861. }

I hereby certify the foregoing to be true copies of the originals on record in my office.

JOHN E. HOLLAND, *Secretary*.





